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FM AMCONSUL LAGOS  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8938  
INFO RUEHZK/ECOWAS COLLECTIVE PRIORITY  
RUEHUJA/AMEMBASSY ABUJA PRIORITY 8751  
RUEHNY/AMEMBASSY OSLO PRIORITY 0039  
RUEHRO/AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY 1256  
RUEHWR/AMEMBASSY WARSAW PRIORITY 0368  
RUEHVB/AMEMBASSY ZAGREB PRIORITY 0037  
RUEHCD/AMCONSUL CIUDAD JUAREZ PRIORITY 0347  
RUEHIT/AMCONSUL ISTANBUL PRIORITY 0346  
RUEHSO/AMCONSUL SAO PAULO PRIORITY 0340  
RULSDMK/DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION WASHDC PRIORITY  
RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHDC PRIORITY  
RUCPDO/DEPT OF COMMERCE WASHDC PRIORITY  
RUEAHL/DEPT OF HOMELAND SECURITY WASHDC PRIORITY  
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY  
RHEBAAA/DEPT OF ENERGY WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY  
RHEFDIA/DIA WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY  
RUFOADA/JAC MOLESWORTH AFB UK PRIORITY  
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 LAGOS 000359

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STATE FOR AF/W, INR/AA, DS/IP/AF, DS/ICI/PII, DS/DSS/OSAC,  
CA/OCS/ACS/AF FOR MESARITI  
ZAGREB FOR AMBASSADOR BRADTKE  
WARSAW FOR LISA PIASCIK  
CIUDAD JUAREZ FOR DONNA BLAIR  
OSLO FOR HELENA SCHRADER  
ISTANBUL FOR TASHAWNA SMITH  
SAO PAULO FOR ANDREW WITHERSPOON  
DOE FOR GPERSON, CAROLYN GAY  
TREASURY FOR ASEVERENS, SRENENDER, DFIELD  
COMMERCE FOR KBURRESS  
STATE PASS USTR FOR ASST USTR FLISER  
STATE PASS TRANSPORTATION FOR MARAD  
STATE PASS OPIC FOR ZHAN AND MSTUCKART  
STATE PASS TDA FOR NCABOT  
STATE PASS EXIM FOR JRICHTER  
STATE PASS USAID FOR GWEYNAND AND SLAWAETZ

E.O. 12958: DECL: 05/18/2017  
TAGS: [ASEC](#) [CASC](#) [EPET](#) [KDEM](#) [NI](#) [PGOV](#) [PREL](#)  
SUBJECT: SITREP 14: 5 AMCITS REMAIN HOSTAGES; MEDS  
DELIVERED; GI GOES TO WARRI

REF: LAGOS 355

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Classified By: Consul General Brian L. Browne for reasons 1.4 (B) and (D)

1. (C) Summary: Chevron's six expatriate employees, American citizen John Stapleton, one Croatian and four Italians, begin their eighteenth day as hostages. Dr. Godknows Igali, Secretary to the Bayelsa State Government, continues to use

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other militant groups to pressure Victor Ebikabowei into releasing the hostages. Four American citizens kidnapped on May 8 remain hostages. Global Industries plans to send representatives to Warri on May 19 to better liaise with the Delta State Government. End Summary.

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Bayelsa/Chevron: Send Meds As Requested;  
Igali Working to Secure Hostages' Release

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¶2. (C) Chevron's six expatriate employees, American citizen John Stapleton, one Croatian and four Italians, begin their eighteenth day as hostages. Chevron plans to send another package of medication and water to the hostages today, May 18, through State Security Service (SSS). Chevron's hostage crisis group said they would ask SSS to see if the militants would allow the hostages to send letters to their families. Chevron's Managing Director Fred Nelson said he intended to send letters to both the American and Italian Ambassadors but did not comment on their content or date of delivery.

¶3. (C) On May 17, Dr. Godknows Igali, Secretary to the Bayelsa State Government, told Chevron he was using other militant groups to pressure Victor Ebikabowei (Reftel) to release the hostages. Igali was optimistic the release would occur soon. However, the Deputy Governor believed militant leader Henry Okah is determined to inflict injury on international oil companies and would hold the hostages until May 30. Chevron has decided to rely on Dr. Igali and Governor Jonathan, who they believe to be more influential than the Deputy Governor, for information. Regarding the release plan, Chevron is now considering a night convoy from Yenagoa to Warri if necessary, as night flights would not be permitted. However, Chevron believes the Government House is "secure enough" for a handover of the hostages. (Reftel)

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Delta/GI: Meds Received; GI Personnel In Warri  
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¶4. (C) Four American citizens, Kevin Faller, Christopher Gay, Michael Rousell and Larry Plake, begin their tenth day as hostages. Global Industries (GI) gathered additional medication and water to send to the hostages following reports that these items were delivered. (Note: Amcit

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Rousell takes medication for hypertension and high cholesterol. End Note.) GI thought the hostages would likely be released in Warri. Upon release, GI would move them quickly to Lagos where they would overnight before taking an international flight to Houston via London. The company has all four Americans' passports.

¶5. (C) GI last had contact with the kidnappers/hostages on May 16. GI has decided to send representatives to Warri on May 19 to improve communication with SSS and the Secretary to the State Government, Ovie Omo-Agege. GI expressed optimism that this crisis would soon be resolved. Governor-elect Emmanuel Uduaghan thought the militants responsible for this kidnapping may have come from the northern part of the Egbema Kingdom, which extends from Warri North LGA in Delta State to Ovia South-West local government area (LGA) in Edo State. If this is the case, personalities in Edo State may seek involvement in this matter. Their inclusion would likely complicate and somewhat delay the resolution.  
BROWNE